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Serial No.: 10/027,879

4

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims, in which claims 1, 6, 8, 9-12, 15, 17, 19-22, 24 and 25 are amended and claim 16 and 18 are canceled without prejudice, will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing documents in a computer implemented document management system, comprising the steps of:

creating a document profile that includes fields of attributes of a document;

generating a unique identifier for the document, the unique identifier including at least a first portion including information descriptive of an attribute of the document and at least a second portion including an automatically generated number, the unique identifier being visible to users of the document management system and providing information about the document to the users; and

storing the document profile for the document.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the first portion is descriptive of the author of the document.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the second portion is a sequentially generated number unique for the first portion.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein the second portion is a sequentially generated number unique for the first portion.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein the unique identifier is generated before the document content is entered.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of requiring selecting selection of a predefined document template from a set of

MARY M. BENDIK.
Serial No.: 10/027,879

5

predefined document templates for the document during creation of the document profile, the document template defining the format of the document.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of linking the document profile to a file type that is not created within the document management system.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of creating an email message via a messaging system external to the document management system including a link to the document profile using a selector within the document management system so that a recipient of the message can access the document associated with the document profile if the recipient has appropriate authorization to access the document associated with the document profile.

9. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of creating an email message via a messaging system external to the document management system including a copy of the document from using a selector within the document management system so that a recipient of the message can access the copy of the document.

10. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of defining user access permission in the document profile, wherein the step of defining user access permission includes the step acquiring the identity of the user from a source external to the document management system.

11. (Currently amended) A method for managing documents, comprising the steps of:

creating a document profile that includes fields of attributes of the document;

requiring selecting selection of a predefined document template from a set of predefined document templates for the document during creation of the document profile, the document template defining the format of the document; and

MARY M. BENDIK.
Serial No.: 10/027, 879

6

storing the profile for a document before any information is entered into a content of the document.

12. (Currently amended) A method for managing documents [[with]]
in a computer implemented document management system, comprising the steps of:

creating a document profile that includes fields of attributes of a document; and

linking the document profile to a file type that is not created within the document management system.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein the file type is a word processing document, a spreadsheet document, a database record or a URL link.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein the file type is an email record.

15. (Currently amended) A method for managing documents in a computer implemented document management system, comprising the steps of:

creating a document profile that includes fields of attributes of the document

storing the document profile; and

creating an email message via a messaging system external to the document management system comprising a link to the document profile using a selector within the document management system so that a recipient of the message can access the document associated with the document profile.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method for managing documents in a computer implemented document management system, comprising the steps of:

creating a document profile that includes fields of attributes of the document

MARY M. BENDIK.
Serial No.: 10/027,879

7

storing the document profile; and

creating an email message via a messaging system external to the document management system including a copy of the document [[from]] using a selector within the document management system so that a recipient of the message can access the copy of the document.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [[18]] 10 wherein the source of the identity of the user is an operating system security system or a database security system.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for managing documents in a computer implemented document management system comprising the steps of:

creating at least one document profile that includes fields of attributes of an associated document content;

storing the document profile in a database;

creating document content associated with the document profile;

exiting the document;

storing the document content external to the database in a file system of a first storage device; [[and]]

defining in the document management system at least a second storage device to which the document content is to be copied when stored in the first storage device;

[[replicating]] copying the document content from the first storage device to a second storage device.

MARY M. BENDIK.
Serial No.: 10/027,879

8

21. (Currently amended) A computer implemented document management system, the computer including a processing unit a storage device, the document management system comprising:

a module to create a document profile to be stored in a database in the storage device, the document profile including fields of attributes of an associated document;

a module to generate a unique identifier for the document, the unique identifier comprising at least a first portion comprising information descriptive of an attribute of the document and at least a second portion comprising a number generated by the unique identifier generation module, the unique identifier being visible to users of the document management system and providing information about the document to the users.

22. (Currently amended) The document management system of Claim 21 wherein the document profile creation module includes a module to [[select]] require selection of a predefined document template from a set of predefined document templates for the document during creation of the document profile, the document template defining the format of the document.

23. (Original) The document management system of Claim 21 wherein the document profile creation module includes a module to link the document profile to a file type that is not created within the document management system.

24. (Currently amended) The document management system of Claim 21 further including a module to create an email message via a messaging system external to the document management system having a link to the document profile using a selector within the document management system so that a recipient of the message can access the document associated with the document profile.

25. (Currently amended) The document management system of Claim 21 further including a module to create an email message via a messaging system external to the document management system including a copy of the document [[from]]

MARY M. BENDIK
Serial No.: 10/027,879

9

using a selector within the document management system so that a recipient of the message can access the copy of the document.

A3

26. (Original) The document management system of Claim 21 further including a module to define user access permission in the document profile by acquiring the identity of the user from a source external to the document management system.

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